



## **Verification of operational seasonal forecasting systems over Europe and Northern Africa**

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Seasonal forecasting systems (SFSs) are continuously evolving and knowledge on their improvement is essential for operational activities. As the skill of SFSs is still rather poor over mid-latitudes and in particular over the Mediterranean, it is essential to thoroughly estimate skill changes with successive systems upgrades. The primary purpose of this poster is to update results on the skill of a collection of dynamical systems very much used for operations in the context of the Mediterranean area and the seasonal forecasting. The operational systems here compared correspond to the most recent versions of seasonal forecast systems from the following Global Producing Centres: i) European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), ii) Météo-France (MF), iii) UK Met Office (UKMO), iv) USA National Center for Environmental Prediction (NCEP), v) Environment Canada (EC), vi) Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD), vii) Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (CMCC) and viii) Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA). In order to provide a fair comparison of the different systems, the maximum common period provided by C3S Climate Data Store has been chosen (1994-2015) as the assessment period. Analysis of the results allows identification of some windows of opportunity linked to certain teleconnections, seasons, variables and systems. Update of skill scores for specific sub-regions within the Mediterranean contributes greatly to the efforts aiming at evaluating individual systems in an operational environment. This poster extends previous results on older versions of the systems here considered. In this way some quantitative estimation of the improvement of each of the systems in the Mediterranean area can be made.